



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Kurt KEMPER *et al.*

Application No.: 09/787,819

Group Art Unit: 3726

Filed: March 23, 2001

Examiner: P. W. Echols

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE  
SURFACE TREATMENT OF  
WORKPIECES AND THEIR USE

Attorney Docket No. 215548.01100

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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MAY 15 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith are the following documents for filing in the above-referenced application:

1. Amendment and Reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

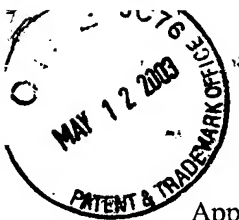
Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this Amendment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1710.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 12, 2003



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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2003, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 21.

1. (Twice Amended) A method for a surface treatment of workpieces of aluminum and/or alloyed aluminum in which (said workpiece) (12, 12', 12'') is worked at least in part by at least one roll (16, 16', 16'', 74', 74'', 86', 86'') provided at least in part with an outer profile (22, 22', 76, 76', 78, 78') having the form of annular beads and recesses, comprising the steps of:

exposing (the treated surface (14, 14', 14'') of said workpiece) (12, 12', 12'') to [inherent] compressive stresses; and

exposing zones located beneath said treated surface (14, 14', 14'') of said workpiece (12, 12', 12'') to [inherent] tensile[s] stresses axially and tangentially through contact with said annular beads.

2. (Twice Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said workpiece (12, 12', 12'') is moved in an axial direction by said at least one roll (16, 16', 16'', 74', 74'', 86', 86'') provided [at least in part with the outer profile (22, 22', 76, 76', 78, 78')] with said annular beads.

3. (Twice Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said workpiece (12, 12', 12'') is worked by at least [one, or two, roll(s) (16, 16', 16'', 74', 74'', 86', 86'') provided at least in part with the outer profile (22, 22', 76, 76', 78, 78')] two rolls with said annular beads in sequence in [an] opposite directions.